

Appl. No. : 10/719,086
Filed : November 21, 2003

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following comments.

Request for Continued Examination

This Amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination.

Amendments

Claims 8 and 22 have been amended. Claim 8 now recites, in part, "a removable member comprising a first, threaded end configured to removably engage with the proximal end of the elongated body and a second end configured to removably engage with an installation tool." Claim 22 now recites, in part, "a removable member comprising a first, threaded end configured to removably engage with the elongated body and a second end configured to removably engage with an installation tool." Support for this subject matter can be found in Figure 9A (element 424) and Figures 1 and 2. Applicant respectfully submits that the pending Claims are in condition for allowance.

Information Disclosure Statement

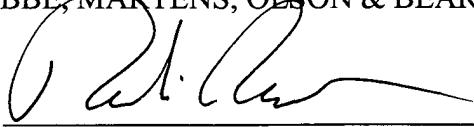
This Amendment and the Request for Continued Examination is also being filed with a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

CONCLUSION

Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is most earnestly solicited. If any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's attorney in order to resolve such issue promptly. Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,
KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 1-31-08

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